

PARMELIA PERMACULATA, A NEW LICHEN FROM ALABAMA AND MEXICO

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In my monograph of Parmelia subgenus Amphigymnia (Hale, 1965) I identified a series of specimens from Alabama and Mexico as P. reparata Stirton, a species first described from Australia. The identifications were tentative since the type was in poor condition. Now that I have recently seen other specimens from Australia, I am convinced that the American material is different and represents a new species since it has a broad zone free of rhizines along the margin below, whereas P. reparata consistently has dense rhizines to the margin and may actually be related to the widespread P. cetrata Ach.

PARMELIA PERMACULATA Hale, sp. nov.

Thallus laxe adnatus, expansus, coriaceus, usque ad 20 cm diametro, albocinereus, lobis rotundatis, usque ad 1.5 cm latis, margine ciliatis, ciliis 1.2-2.5 mm longis, superne planus, nitidus, valde albomaculatus, aetate rimosus, sorediis isidiisque destitutis, subtus niger, rhizinosus centrum versus, margine nudus, castaneus. Apothecia numerosa, usque ad 20 cm diametro, amphithecio rugoso, albomaculato, disco perforato, sporis 6-7X13-16 μ .

Holotype: On deciduous trees, open pasture, 9 km east Jalapa along hwy. 140, Veracruz, Mexico, M. E. Hale 19406, 13 March 1960 (US; isotypes in S, TNS, UPS).

Distribution: Alabama, Mexico (Veracruz, Chiapas, Nayarit). For specimens examined see those listed under P. reparata in Hale (1965), p. 338.

This conspicuous Amphigymnia species (see photograph, Fig. 39 in Hale, 1965) is most common in Veracruz at an elevation of 1000-1400 m. The nearest relative is fatiscient-sorediate P. corallifera Hale, a Mexican endemic. Both species contain atranorin and salazinic acid.